

bench, his parents were known to refer to him as "boy judge." Clearly, Madam Speaker, Robert and Anita's "boy judge" has come a long way and his parents have given Marquette County, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and, indeed, the nation, a judge who is a national leader in reclaiming young lives.

As Judge Anderegg himself has noted, "The money we spend now on locating and providing the best possible treatment is money we will not need to spend later on prosecuting and incarcerating adult criminals. The financial and social costs of substance abuse are enormous, but they are avoidable." No truer words have ever been spoken.

This weekend, the people of Marquette come together to honor Judge Michael Anderegg. During this momentous occasion, I would ask the entire U.S. House of Representatives to join me in saluting Judge Michael Anderegg and in wishing him, his wife, Cheryl, and their children all the best for many years to come.

CLEAN ENERGY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2007

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6, the CLEAN Energy Act, which will end federal welfare for big oil companies and redirect billions of dollars towards investments in a cleaner, more secure energy future.

Less than two weeks into the 110th Congress, Democrats have already delivered real progress for American families by passing the six measures outlined in the 100 Hours Agenda with time to spare. The CLEAN Energy Act (H.R. 6) is one of these priorities. As a cosponsor of H.R. 6, I was proud to vote for the bill when it passed the House 264–163 on January 18, 2007 with the support of 36 Republican members.

Over the past several years, U.S. taxpayer subsidies to oil companies have increased at a time of record-high energy prices for American consumers and record profits for oil companies. In 2006, the five largest oil companies operating in the U.S. received \$97 billion in profits—five times their earnings in 2002. In this economic environment, the oil companies themselves have said most federal supports are unnecessary.

The new Congress is ushering in new priorities. H.R. 6 repeals \$13 billion in subsidies that should never have been granted during a time of war and spiraling federal budget deficits. Specifically, the measure requires large oil companies that were awarded royalty-free federal drilling leases in 1998 and 1999 to pay their fair share or lose eligibility for future federal leases. It would also close loopholes and end giveaways for big oil in the tax code and in the 2005 Energy bill. In keeping with the Democrats' pledge to take America in a new direction, H.R. 6 reinvests these billions into a Strategic Renewable Energy Reserve that will be used to fund clean, renewable energy technologies such as home-grown biofuels.

H.R. 6 is an important first step in reducing America's dependence on oil. In this new era of global terror and global warming, energy

security is national security. Only by pursuing a bold new direction on energy policy will America achieve our three, interdependent goals of national security, economic strength and environmental protection. With an abundance of renewable energy sources in our backyard and clean energy technology companies across the state, Minnesota stands to reap more than its share of benefits from a new national push for clean energy.

One year ago, in his State of the Union Address, President Bush promised to end our oil addiction. Today, the new Democratic majority is helping the President make good on that promise and working to create a more secure and prosperous future for the next generation of Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 24, 2007

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I was unable to make the following rollcall vote on January 19, 2007:

H.R. 475, The House Page Board Revision Act (Rollcall vote 42). On the motion to pass the bill, had I been present, I would have voted, "yea."

H. RES. 51—HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SPEECH OF

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 22, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the hallmark of Catholic schools is their ability to provide students with a well-rounded education. By focusing on academic excellence based on strong morals, Catholic schools consistently graduate ethical scholars.

I strongly support H. Res. 51 because it recognizes this distinguished ability of Catholic schools. New Jersey's fifth district is proud to be the home of numerous Catholic schools which are overseen by the dioceses of Newark, Metuchen and Paterson.

As we commend Catholic schools through this resolution and during next week's Catholic Schools Week, I would be remiss if I did not highlight the excellent administrators, teachers, parents, and students who make up the New Jersey Catholic School system. It is their dedication to their mission that has cultivated a lasting and celebrated program.

New Jersey's strong tradition of Catholic education can be traced back to the late eighteenth century when larger metropolitan areas started to erect schools which were supervised and supported by church authorities. Now, over 200 years later, Catholic schools can be found all over New Jersey, educating future leaders to serve their fellow statesmen and those who live far beyond our state line.

New Jersey Catholic Schools operate under the motto: "Learning to love. Loving to learn." This maxim pinpoints the consistent successful record of Catholic education: instilling a re-

spect and concern for others while simultaneously sparking a genuine curiosity and thirst for knowledge.

It is with these things in mind that I wholeheartedly support House Resolution 51 and look forward to hearing of the continued successes of the Catholic school system, in New Jersey and all over the world.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS OF CAL RIPKEN, JR.

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 24, 2007

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize a man who led by example not only on the field but continues to lead off the field as well. Cal Ripken Jr., a son of Maryland who is known to many as Baseball's "Iron Man", was inducted into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame on January 9, 2007. He garnered 98.53% of the votes—the third highest total in Major League Baseball history.

Calvin Edwin Ripken, Jr. was born in Havre de Grace, Maryland on August 24, 1960. He has dedicated his entire baseball career playing for the Baltimore Orioles organization and contributing to life in Maryland.

Cal made his debut for the Orioles in August of 1981. He quickly impressed baseball fans and professionals alike with his play at the shortstop position, and was honored for his play by being named the American League's Rookie of the Year in 1982. His continuing excellence on the field led to many additional awards throughout his career. Cal was named the American League's Most Valuable Player in 1983 and 1991. He was a 19-time American League All-Star, winning Most Valuable Player awards in the 1991 and 2001 All-Star games. However, none of his career accomplishments matches his consecutive games played record, previously held by Lou Gehrig at 2,130 games. Cal broke the long-standing record on September 6, 1995, eventually playing 2,632 consecutive games, a record for which he was nicknamed "Baseball's Iron Man".

Cal Ripken, Jr. retired from professional baseball on October 6, 2001, but that was not the end of the Iron Man's service to baseball or Maryland. He has been an active member of the local community throughout his career and beyond. In 2001, Cal and other members of the Ripken family began the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation, which is dedicated to providing access to baseball and softball camps for underprivileged youth. He continued to support baseball in the community when he built a stadium in Aberdeen, MD, for the Aberdeen IronBirds, the Single-A affiliate of the Orioles, of which he is a part owner.

He is known as the "Iron Man" because of his dedication to the Baltimore Orioles and to baseball due to his consecutive games streak record. However, his efforts on and off the field for the Baltimore area, the state of Maryland, and fans of baseball everywhere are what really make him the "Iron Man" to all. Just as he could be counted on to show up every day on the field to play for the Orioles, he is counted on by the people of the Baltimore area and Maryland to show up off the

field, and I am proud to say that the "Iron Man" has always come through.

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS PETRY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 24, 2007

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dennis Petry for 30 years of service on the Triad School Board. He has served on the school board since 1977.

Mr. Petry served as secretary of the Triad School Board from 1981–1983 and served as president from 1983–1991. He was also named the recipient of the Those Who Excel Award by the Illinois State Board of Education.

A 1962 graduate of Triad High School, Mr. Petry earned a bachelor of science in business from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. He is married to his wife, Linda, and has three children, Jeff, Joel and Gina, and four grandchildren. Dennis is a mail carrier for the United States Postal Service. Aside from his duties with the Triad School Board, he volunteers his time with Knights of Columbus Council 9266 and the Saint Jerome Pastoral Council and Literacy Committee.

It is my honor to thank Dennis for his many years of service to the students of the Triad School District. May God bless him for his work.

IN HONOR OF STAFF SERGEANT JAMES WOSIKA

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 24, 2007

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of SSG James Wosika. Sergeant Wosika was killed on January 9, 2007 while on foot patrol in Fallujah, when an improvised explosive device detonated near him. Due to his bravery and self-sacrifice, the nine other soldiers in proximity to Sergeant Wosika were not injured.

Sergeant Wosika was serving his 10th month in Iraq with the Minnesota National Guard. He graduated from Highland Park High School in St. Paul in 2000. In school, he was a State champion wrestler and football player and he is remembered by his loved ones as a wonderful young man who would do anything for his friends and family.

Sergeant Wosika was warm, brave, and dependable. He loved his country and honored his family, many whom served in the military before him, when he enlisted in the National Guard after high school graduation. To his fellow soldiers, his friends, family and all Americans, Sergeant Wosika was a hero.

Madam Speaker, Minnesota has lost 49 soldiers since the beginning of this war. The Minnesota National Guard has also just been informed that their tour in Iraq has been extended by 4 months.

It should be the top priority of Congress to keep our families safe—in our communities, while serving our government, and while serving our country overseas. I will continue working with my colleagues on both sides of the

aisle to ensure this remains our focus throughout the 110th Congress.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of this brave and honorable young man. Along with all Americans, I extend my prayers and deepest condolences to the friends and family of SSG James Wosika.

IN RECOGNITION OF ALAMEDA COUNTY'S TOP COP, SHERIFF CHARLES PLUMMER

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 24, 2007

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Alameda County Sheriff Charles Plummer who spent his last day on the job as Alameda County's top cop on January 8, 2007. His retirement ceremony included helicopter flyovers, bagpipes and literally hundreds of handshakes. It was a fitting ceremony to a stellar 50-plus years in law enforcement.

A native of Fort Bragg, on the Mendocino coast, Charley Plummer worked as a teen in a shingle mill and as a lumberjack. One evening, hitchhiking back to Fort Bragg, a California Highway Patrol officer picked him up. The officer told him he had the right build and a good personality and should become a cop. Soon thereafter he left Santa Rosa Junior College and took an exam to become a Berkeley police officer and joined the force in 1952.

In 1973, Charley was named acting chief in Berkeley, a post he held for 9 months. He left Berkeley to become police chief in Hayward. He held this position for 10 years before friends convinced him to run for sheriff. He won the race for sheriff and the rest is history.

He changed the Alameda County Sheriff Department's culture by bringing a high level of discipline to the department. Under his leadership, the department has become the only law enforcement agency west of the Mississippi to gain accreditations in five different functions: bomb squad, health care, law enforcement, corrections and crime lab. He also entered the department into lucrative law enforcement contracts with AC Transit and BART.

Although Charley Plummer will no longer hold the title of Alameda County Sheriff, he will be known as Sheriff Emeritus and will devote his time to charity. He serves as a director or trustee on numerous boards and will continue his exemplary commitment and devotion to making a difference in the community.

Charley has never minced words nor failed to step up to the plate to take responsibility for activities or implementation of programs for the safety and welfare of residents in Alameda County. He leaves a legacy of commitment, straight-talk and no-nonsense service. He has cut to the chase and his accomplishments are beyond measure. I join his friends, colleagues and admirers in thanking Sheriff Emeritus Plummer for his exemplary track record and marathon of service.

SUPPORT A DISABLED VETERANS MEMORIAL

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 24, 2007

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today Representative DENNIS MOORE and I introduced the American Veterans Disabled for Life Commemorative Coin Act, H.R. 634. This legislation seeks to recognize the sacrifices made by America's more than three million disabled veterans by building a memorial for them here in Washington, DC.

In 2000, Congress authorized the construction of the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial just south of the Rayburn Building. Last December President Bush signed into law a bill transferring control of the land for the memorial from the District of Columbia to the National Park Service. Now the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial Foundation needs to raise approximately \$65 million to cover the cost of construction.

This legislation will authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative silver dollars that will be sold with a surcharge that will help the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial Foundation raise the money needed to construct the memorial. Not only will these coins be collector's items, they will benefit a worthy cause.

With more than 3 million disabled veterans in the United States today, it is fitting that a memorial to their sacrifice be erected in Washington, DC. It is my hope that all my colleagues will join Congressman MOORE and me in supporting this legislation to help make the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial a reality.

THE CLEAN ENERGY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2007

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Madam Speaker, we all agree that reducing America's consumption of foreign oil and gas is important. But, sadly this legislation is a missed opportunity. In fact, it will likely increase the country's dependence on foreign fossil fuels.

H.R. 6 will increase taxes on domestic oil and gas producers and place the additional Federal revenues in a fund that will pay for future legislation to subsidize alternative energy programs. Imposing higher taxes on one sector of the economy that is responsible for creating millions of jobs and accounts for 3.5 percent of total national employment is nothing short of terrible economic policy. H.R. 6 is a recipe for layoffs, lowered U.S. investment, and higher prices at the pump.

One of the main provisions in the bill is to deny tax benefits enacted in 2004 to oil and gas companies. The tax benefits in the 2004 bill did not single out the oil and gas industry. In fact, the 2004 legislation lowered the corporate tax rate for all domestic manufacturers. The goal of the bill was to encourage companies, from tool and die manufacturers to the film industry, to remain in the United States instead of moving operations to lower-taxed